

September 27, 2006
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JUSTICE KILBRIDE ANNOUNCES JUDICIAL VACANCIES IN TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Illinois Supreme Court Justice Thomas L. Kilbride has begun an application process for two new resident subcircuit judges in the Twelfth Judicial Circuit. When completed, the process will fill vacancies for recently created Subcircuits No. 3 and No. 4.

Under the Illinois Constitution, the Illinois Supreme Court is vested with the authority to fill judicial vacancies.

The Supreme Court's decision earlier this week in *Bridges v. State Board of Elections* resolved the constitutionality of a judicially related law (Public Act 94-727) and reinstated the vacancy in Subcircuit No. 4. The Supreme Court was recently advised by Chief Circuit Judge Stephen D. White that additional courtrooms to house the new judges are near completion in the Emco Building in Joliet.

Notice of the vacancies will be posted at the various courthouses within the Twelfth Circuit, which encompasses Will County. The application is available from Justice Kilbride's office in Rock Island, Chief Judge White's office at the Will County Courthouse, or the Will County Bar Association.

To be considered, applications must be received in Justice Kilbride's office by 11:30 a.m. on October 30, 2006.

An applicant must be admitted to practice in Illinois, must be a resident of the subcircuit and must be in good standing with the Illinois Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission.

Other qualities an applicant must possess include: a demonstrated reputation for integrity and good character; a demonstrated commitment to equal justice under law; outstanding legal ability and competence; and the appropriate demeanor, character and personality necessary for the judicial temperament required by a Circuit Court judge.

The persons appointed to fill the vacancies will serve until the first Monday in December 2008, when the position will be filled by the election in November 2008.

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(FOR MORE INFORMATION: Please contact Joseph Tybor, press secretary to the Illinois Supreme Court, at 312/793-2323.)